

MINUTES OF CEDAR VALLEY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM  
HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1978  
7:45 P.M.

This meeting was called to order by Donald Norseth. He stated that we had a dry year last year, but that the picture looks good this year. There is a little snow on the mountain this year, and last year it was totally dry. He further stated that this is our distribution meeting where we discuss what we did and what we shouldn't have done. We will hear the minutes and see what we set up. We will have a report of the monies and will ask the Commissioner for his report of the condition of the system. We will prepare a budget to cover the expenses for 1978 and also decide who we would like for Commissioner for the coming year. At the end of the meeting, we will open it up for discussion on matters we wish to discuss. Mr. Norseth then turned the meeting over to Mr. Brent Jones who conducted the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Jones stated that the first item on the agenda would be hearing the minutes of our 1977 meeting. Secretary Lakee Garfield then read the minutes for 1977. Thelmer Stratton made the motion that the minutes be approved as read. Howard Nelson seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by the members present.

Mr. Jones then stated that the next item of business would be to hear the 1977 Financial Report. A copy of this report is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference. Mr. Norseth gave an explanation of the report and stated that there were four delinquent accounts amounting to a total of \$200.00. Howard Nelson made the motion that the financial report be approved. The motion was seconded by Thelmer Stratton and unanimously passed by the members present.

Chairman Jones then asked Mr. Clement Adams to give his Commissioner's Report for 1977.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: (A copy of this report was given to the heads of the various fields prior to the meeting, and a copy of the same is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.)

Clement stated that he thinks we need to change our way of living. He had been in St. George where it had rained all day, and we are still very, very dry. He reported that Ash Creek is running at about 200 second feet, and that by the time he arrived at Kanarra, it had quit raining, and when he got home, it hadn't rained at all. The gullies near St. George all had six inches of water in them.

The year 1977 began very cold and snowy. Coal Creek was frozen over, and this was one of the driest years ever. Coal Creek reached its peak on April 8th at 9:00 p.m., whereas, it has always reached its peak near the end of May. The creek rose on May 27th, and then it was very low for the rest of the summer. The total flow of Coal Creek was 8,128.09 acre feet, which is about half of normal. Clement reported that he made 277 trips along Coal Creek in 1977, and the water users were exceptionally fine to work with.

The inventory at this time is as follows: 1 IBM electric typewriter; 1 calculator (the old calculator sold for \$5.00). Clement recommended that we purchase a new stop watch which will cost approximately \$25.00.

Clemont stated that the most urgent matter at this time is to devise some means of meter repair. A number of people have made a diligent effort to get their meters repaired, but it seems that the water users will have to get some means of meter repair. Clemont said that he used to fix meters, but people didn't pay for his services, so he had to stop. He said that he knows a man who is an excellent repair man, but we will have to guarantee that he would be paid if he does the repair work.

Clemont then reported that the work of the Commissioner and his deputies increased by about 8%. He stated that people who even water a garden should be required to have a meter, and he further stated that he is convinced that these people are taking more than their share of the water. If there are meters installed in cases such as this, the work of the deputies will increase even more. At the present time they are reading about 150 meters from 128 wells. This is about double what it was 15 years ago. The rule has always been that under 20 acre feet, we don't have to meter it, but Clemont said he feels that this needs to be changed.

Clemont then expressed his thanks to Gerald Stoker, Sandra McCall, the Soil Conservation Service, the FAA at the Cedar City Airport, Bulloch Brothers Engineering Firm, California Pacific Utilities, and Theon Bauer. He expressed appreciation for the new duplicator which has cut the cost of printed material way down. He recommended that we cut the budget back to \$300.00 for this report rather than \$500.00 as we have it this year.

The following is the record of water used in Cedar Valley this year:

Clemont reported that the pump wells used more, but the water tables dropped to where we couldn't get it out of the ground. This valley cannot stand expansion of the type used by those with sprinkler systems, because they think they can expand their rights.

Cedar City Corporation used 3,300 acre feet of water; South and West Field, 1,916 acre feet; Hunter Ditch 75 acre feet; Union Field, 1,203 acre feet; North Field, 1,269 acre feet; East Extension, 1,269 acre feet; Northwest Field, 451 acre feet; Old Fort and Old Field, 821 acre feet; Coal Creek, 1,119 acre feet (also drew Class B water. This is a total of 10,154 acre feet. The irrigation wells drew 39,870.51 acre feet, and the culinary wells drew 3,107.89 acre feet, for a total of 42,977.98 acre feet.

Clemont said his well went dry on the 20th of June, and he didn't pump any more water. The water table is going down faster than people think. The measuring device on Webster Flat showed no snow on the 1st of May last year. This is the driest year ever. Coal Creek reached a low ebb of four second feet, but a few fall showers revived the Creek somewhat. Clemont indicated that the precipitation measure can be found on the last page of his report.

Last summer there were no floods, but the year before, the USGS weir was beginning to wear out on the down hill side. Cement slabs were placed there, but it may need to be pushed back in there this year. If we keep maintaining them, it will never get to be a big job as it was before. Clemont suggested that we put \$100.00 into maintenance in case we need to repair this to prevent floods. Kerry Jones asked where this is located, and Clemont explained where it was and what work had been done on it.



Clement resigned as Water Commissioner but stated that he would continue providing he can have his boy as his deputy. This will require about four days a week.

Two subdivisions overpumped this year. Ten or twelve people overpumped. Some method of fixing the meters is needed to prevent overpumping, as Clement explained previously. When people get out of a well company, the company overpumps, and so does the person. Eighteen people overpumped, most of them small amounts. Dr. Deal overpumped 107 acre feet. However, not all of this belongs to him, but Clement couldn't track down who the water belongs to, so he charged it all to Dr. Deal. John Stankosky overpumped 72 acre feet.

Clement said that it is interesting to note that in the last 15 years since he has been reading wells, he gets 100% cooperation out of the gravity users, but it is impossible to satisfy those who have their own wells. One man threatened Clement's boy to the point where he would not go back. Clement said that if he has any more trouble, he will call the Sheriff to go with him. The subdivision people give him the most trouble. Well houses are locked so that Clement cannot get in, and when he does get in he has to go in through a window and drop down and read the meter in the dark. Bud Bauer asked why Clement couldn't have a key when well houses have to be locked. Clement said that Monte Vista has cooperated very well with him, but everyone will not do this. Most of the pumpers are very cooperative, but some really give him trouble.

Brent Jones then asked for a motion that the Commissioner's Report be approved. Norman Grimshaw made the motion that the Report be approved. The motion was seconded by Jerry Bryant and unanimously passed by the members present.

Clement then stated that if Coal Creek flows as it is predicted, it will flow 17,500 acre feet which is about normal. Clement said that the irrigation companies should clean their channels so that the water will not be wasted, because we will need every bit of it.

BUDGET FOR 1978: (A copy of this is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.)

A total budget of \$6,096.00 was approved. Dr. J. S. Prestwich made the motion that the secretary's salary be increased to \$30.00. Thelmer Stratton seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed.

Norman Grimshaw asked about parts for the meters. Clement said that three or four years ago the parts were sold out and that the people should have taken care of them themselves, but it just doesn't work. Dr. Prestwich asked how long it takes to get parts, and George Vandenberghe said that it takes one week. Brent Hunter said that he thinks we should make an arrangement with some individual to fix the meters. Clement said that Vernile Terry won't touch the meters now, but that George Goddard will fix them. Bud Bauer said that he hates to see parts assigned to individuals, but Dr. Prestwich said that this is why we want out of the business. Dr. Prestwich said further that when the meter goes out, you have to keep pumping. It was suggested that the person not get back their meter until they pay to have them fixed. Clement said that at one time we had \$200.00 worth of parts. Bud Bauer said that there is a lot of money in getting parts, and that it should be the individual's responsibility to get them fixed. Clement said that Delwayne Stratton would be his recommendation to fix the meters.

Howard Nelson made the motion that this matter be left to the individuals. Bud Bauer seconded the motion. Clement said that his pay would have to be increased

if we chose to do it that way. Brent Hunter made the motion that we amend the motion to read that we make some official arrangement with some individual and that notification be given to the members to get Mr. Stratton to fix the meters and that individuals should not get involved. This motion was seconded by Howard Nelson and unanimously passed.

Donald Norseth said that they will need to know what meters are broken if there is going to be anything done. Dr. Prestwich said that those two who overpumped and broken meters go together. It is just like stealing from a store. Somebody should have the authority to check on this overpumping. Clemont said that he will give them notice when they are within 25 or 30 acre feet and shut them off if they fail to comply. Craig Jones asked if Clemont would like a resolution to the effect that we would support him in this, and Clemont said that he will just do it. Clemont also stated that he has a problem with people pumping after October 31st, and that he will shut them off and have them go through legal procedure to extend the time for pumping. Dr. Prestwich said that there is a problem with stock watering also, but Clemont said the people with sprinkling systems are the ones giving him problems. Craig Jones said that he can appreciate the difficulty of being Water Commissioner and the law enforcement, too, and that we should support him every way. Kerry Jones made the statement that City employees are not to use City time for individual repairs, but they may use the facilities and equipment after hours. He suggested that we go to the City Manager and water department and have them established as a repair center if some private individual does not wish to do this. Vernal Stratton said that he thinks his son, DeWayne Stratton would be interested, and Dr. Prestwich said that he thought that would be ideal. Clemont said that he can inform the people if that is the way we wish to go. Clemont said that he had talked to DeWayne about this, but he couldn't see anyone having a lot of money tied up in it and that parts should be paid for before the meter is picked up. Bud Bauer said that he thinks we should have come law that they be fixed within a certain period of time, and there is no need for an organization if we don't abide by the rules. Brent Hunter made the motion that we call for the rules. The motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Prestwich made the motion that the budget be approved at \$6,096. Kerry Jones seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by the members present.

Thurman Higbee asked about meters and if parts are available for all four makes of meters in this valley. Clemont said that they are available from the factory on three of the makes, and he did not foresee any problems with the other. Addresses are available as to where to send for parts.

Kerry Jones made the motion that we set the assessment for the year at \$6,100.00. Howard Nelson seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed.

Dr. Prestwich made the motion that the delinquent accounts be collected and that Dallin Gardner should have the Spillsbury account. Clemont said that this has now been taken care of.

Jerry Bryant said that the division for collection should be changed so that the pumpers are paying their proportionate cost of the assessment. He suggested that next year Donald Norseth bring down a formula showing how each individual pays, and Mr. Norseth said that he will send it down sooner so that we will have it before the next meeting.

Dr. Preswich reported that \$85,000.00 has been spent in Kanarra for a new diversion system. A new grill has been put in at the mouth of the canyon diverting the water into a settling pond. All of the water will now come off of the top of the settling pond. Four pipes now run through the town of Kanarra covering up the pipes put in by Cedar City. Water will now be delivered to the fields west of town. The government supplied 80% of the cost, with the water users supplying 20%.

Craig Jones asked about the status of the flood control. Kerry Jones said that it is still in the planning state. Craig Jones asked if there is anything that we can do to push it along, and Kerry said that it is a county responsibility.

Norman Grimshaw asked if Clemont had any information on the underground table, and Clemont said that this information is on maps, and different areas drop faster than others. The Geological Survey water contour maps should be released around the middle of March, and these will show a dramatic decline. Craig Jones asked how would be the best way to have individual wells seal, and Clemont said that if an airline is used it can be checked anytime by pumping it up, and the level can be read at any time. Clemont said that this information is very valuable in determining the water level in the valley. Vernal Stratton made the comment that one has to be careful using this method on a submersible pump, as it could cause it to airlock.

Chairman Brent Jones stated that it was now necessary to elect a new chairman and slate of officers for the coming year. Kerry Jones made the motion that we suspend the rules and retain the same slate of officers. Norman Grimshaw seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Howard Nelson made the motion that the meeting adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.